

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 27, 2009

The Honorable John Spratt  
Chairman, House Budget Committee  
207 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kent Conrad  
Chairman, Senate Budget Committee  
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Ranking Member, House Budget Committee  
B-71 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Judd Gregg  
Ranking Member, Senate budget Committee  
624 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Spratt, Chairman Conrad, Ranking Member Ryan, and Ranking Member Gregg;

We write to encourage you to include in the final Budget language that allows for permanency of the state and local sales tax deduction.

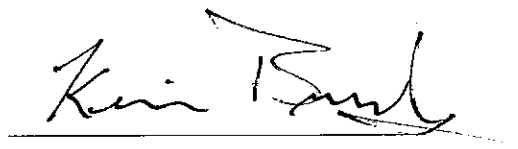
We are pleased and grateful that both the House and Senate versions of the Budget Resolution for FY 2010 contain language allowing for the extension of sales tax deductibility. As you begin to develop the conference report and resolve differences between these two versions, we urge your support for a permanent extension of sales tax deductibility. Our objective is to provide our constituents with the same predictability afforded to residents of states with an income tax, as well as to preclude the need for annual extensions of the sales tax deduction.

The sales tax deduction has saved taxpayers in our states millions of dollars per year and as a result, acts as a stimulus to our states' economies. During these trying economic times, it is especially critical for our constituents to know whether the sales tax deduction will be available for purchases they make this year and in the future – including major purchases such as automobiles, home appliances and renovation materials. Millions of middle-class families in Washington, Florida, Texas, Nevada, Tennessee, South Dakota, and Wyoming will be better equipped to plan their finances for the future if they know that this deduction will be available indefinitely.

We strongly urge you to maintain fairness in the tax code, and to provide certainty and predictability to taxpayers, by including a permanent extension of the sales tax deduction.

We greatly appreciate your continued support on this issue, and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Ron Klein

Kathy Castor

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Shelley Berkley

Ed H. Farn

Anders Persson

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